

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications module having a fully-assembled housing and at least two pair of contacts exposed at the front of the housing, the pairs of contacts being adapted to connect wires therewith, the housing being provided with at least one slot disposed at a location between two pairs of contacts, the at least one slot being open at a perimeter side of the fully-assembled housing extending between the front and rear of the module so as to allow at least a portion of at least one of a shield plate and/or at least and a portion of a grounding rail, which is adapted to electrically contact the shield plate, to be inserted into the slot from outside the housing, wherein the housing has at least one engagement member in the vicinity of the slot to engage with a shield plate inserted into the slot, and wherein the engagement member includes an internal projection extending into the slot.
2. (Previously Presented) The telecommunications module according to claim 1 wherein the at least one slot is open at opposed sides of the module, the slot having a shorter extension on one of the sides.
3. (Cancelled).
4. (Cancelled).
5. (Previously Presented) The telecommunications module according to claim 1 further comprising at least one shield plate and at least one grounding rail.
6. (Previously Presented) The telecommunications module according to claim 5 wherein the shield plate has an engagement member adapted to position the shield plate in the slot.

7. (Previously Presented) The telecommunications module according to claim 6 wherein the engagement member includes a slit formed in the direction of insertion of the shield plate into the slot of the telecommunications module.

8. (Previously Presented) The telecommunications module according to claim 5 wherein the shield plate includes at least one widened portion at a front thereof.

9. (Previously Presented) The telecommunications module according to claim 5 wherein the grounding rail extends in a plane parallel to one of the said sides of the telecommunications module, the portions contacting the shield plates extending at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the plane of the grounding rail.

10. (Previously Presented) The telecommunications module according to claim 5 further comprising a grounding contact electrically connected with the grounding rail.

11. (Previously Presented) The telecommunications module according to claim 5 wherein the telecommunications module comprises eight pairs of contacts and seven shield plates.

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Cancelled).

14. (New) A telecommunications module in combination with a plug which is connected with a cable and comprises a shield contact, the shield contact being electrically connected with at least one shield plate when the plug is attached at the front of the telecommunications module, the telecommunications module having a fully-assembled housing and at least two pair of contacts exposed at the front of the housing, the pairs of contacts being adapted to connect wires therewith, the housing being provided with at least one slot disposed at a location between two pairs of contacts, the at least one slot being open at a perimeter side of the fully-assembled housing extending between the front and rear of the module so as to allow at least a portion of at least one of the shield plate and a portion of a grounding rail, which is adapted to electrically contact the shield plate, to be inserted into the slot from outside the housing.

15. (New) The telecommunications module according to claim 14 wherein the shield plate has an engagement member adapted to position the shield plate in the slot.

16. (New) The telecommunications module according to claim 14 wherein the engagement member includes a slit formed in the direction of insertion of the shield plate into the slot of the telecommunications module.

17. (New) The telecommunications module according to claim 14 wherein the shield plate includes at least one widened portion at a front thereof.

18. (New) The telecommunications module according to claim 14 wherein the grounding rail extends in a plane parallel to one of the said sides of the telecommunications module, the portions contacting the shield plates extending at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the plane of the grounding rail.

19. (New) The telecommunications module according to claim 14 further comprising a grounding contact electrically connected with the grounding rail.

20. (New) The telecommunications module according to claim 14 wherein the telecommunications module comprises eight pairs of contacts and seven shield plates.